The Homeopathic Treatment of Cancer

Cancer is a disease which is chronic in nature. It is an imbalance of the Vital Force of subtle onset and gradual progression throughout which the Vital Fore offers unsatisfactory resistance. Since cancer is a chronic disease, it can be successfully treated and/or prevented by addressing the underlying energetic imbalance of the Vital Force. One of the best means to achieve this goal is through Homeopathic treatment. In order for Homeopathic treatment to be effective, treatment must first be targeted at the specific organ or tissue affected by the cancer. Remedies that target the cancer tumour must then be given to eliminate the overgrown pathology. When the tumour is eradicated and the patient is vital enough, then the underlying energetic imbalance may be addressed by careful constitutional prescribing.

Through careful prescribing, cancer may be prevented by addressing the inherent susceptibility and removing any *irrational* or *maintaining* causes of the otherwise healthy individual. **"He is likewise a sustainer of health if he knows the things that disturb health, that engender and maintain disease, and is aware of how to remove them from healthy people."** [1]

Cancer, as with all chronic diseases, if untreated, will lead to death. The imbalance that leads to cancer occurs first on the general level. As the disease brought about by the imbalance of the Vital Force progresses, the cancer tumour manifests at the

[1] Sixth Edition of Organon of the Medical Art, Aphorism 4, p.61, Samuel Hahnemann

local level. A person's inherent susceptibility predisposes them to developing cancer. If the imbalance isn't addressed, the local manifestation of the disease will take form in a particular part or system that is weak or sensitive.

As Homeopathic treatment directly addresses the energetic imbalance of the Vital Force, it is a useful tool in both the treatment and the prevention of cancer. Samuel Hahnemann states: **"When a person falls ill, it is initially only this spirit-like, autonomic life force (life principle), everywhere present in the organism, that is mistuned through the dynamic influence of a morbific agent inimical to life. Only the life principle, mistuned to such abnormality, can impart to the organism the adverse sensations and induce in the organism the irregular functions that we call disease."**[2]

Since the Vital Force is weakened by the overgrown pathology, cancer may initially be treated as a *one-sided disease*. Hahnemann states: "**Diseases that appear to have only a few symptoms are termed one-sided because only one or two main symptoms stand out, almost obscuring the rest of the befallments. Because of this, these diseases, which belong chiefly to the class of chronic diseases, are more difficult to cure."**[3] Indeed, cancer is challenging to the Homeopathic Practitioner as the patient presents with a paucity of symptoms and the enormous burden of the pathology seems to have taken them over. If the Homeopath reads further into the Organon, he will find that **"if one selects an internal medicine, directed at the whole, which is fittingly**

[2] Sixth Edition of Organon of the Medical Art, Aphorism 11, p.66, Samuel Hahnemann
[3] Sixth Edition of the Organon of the Medical Art, Aphorism 173, p.177, Samuel Hahnemann

homeopathic, it will cause the most salutary alteration, the recovery of the whole human being, along with the disappearance of the external malady, without the assistance of an external means."[4] Furthermore, "**By means of this medicine, taken only internally, the general disease state of the body is lifted simultaneously with the local malady...proving that the local suffering depended simply and solely on a disease of the rest of the body and was only to be regarded as an inseparable part of the whole.**"[5] This is the beauty and the strength of Homeopathy; it's ability to address both the underlying energetic imbalance of the Vital Force and the outwardly manifested localization of the individual's diseased state.

Before I leapt into too much reading, I wanted to hear from contemporary Homeopaths as to what their approach is to treating a cancer patient. By the time I had spoken to a few Practitioners, I discovered that there are too many schools of thought, and being able to reach a consensus among them would be nearly impossible. Some Homeopaths stick to the Classical Hahnemannian principles in their approach:

- Treating the patient as a whole and giving one remedy at a time
- Searching for those strange, rare, and peculiar symptoms on which to hang the case.

Others based their prescription on the predominant miasm in the case. A Homeopath I consulted suggested that there are now more miasms than Hahnemann discovered, and named the *ergot* miasm as a possible offending cause. Some Practitioners believe in sequential prescribing as the way to treat, others follow the Ramakrishnan approach,

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[4] Sixth Edition of the Organon of the Medical Art, Aphorism 191, p. 182, Samuel Hahnemann
[5] Sixth Edition of the Organon of the Medical Art, Aphorism 193, p.183, Samuel Hahnemann

while still others follow the old masters in treating cancer cases. One thing I found in common among them was that they all claimed to have had some success in treating cancer patients. At least *this* was encouraging.

I have never met a person who has not in some way been affected by this disease called 'cancer', either directly, or through a friend or family member who has become afflicted. With this in mind, I have gathered as much information as possible on the subject, and have begun a quest with the aim of finding something that, when compiled, would be of some benefit.

Approaches

Arthur Hill Grimmer

By addressing the inherent susceptibility of the patient, careful Homeopathic prescribing may prevent cancer from occurring in the patient who is in the precancerous phase. When the pathology develops into neoplasm, and when dedifferentiation occurs, it may be useful to target the local manifestation first in order to eradicate the tumour and support the specific organ or tissue affected. Once the local manifestation of the disease is reduced in size and strength, prescribing a carefully selected "constitutional" remedy based on the patient's individualized symptoms can restore balance to the Vital Force.

This type of approach at treatment is perhaps not thought to be truly Homeopathic in nature but seems sound. Arthur Hill Grimmer suggested that: "**The great difficulty in advanced cases of cancer is the inability to obtain therapeutic individualization of**

symptoms. They have the pathology and all the common symptoms that go with it, but they are not sufficient to make a good homoeopathic prescription. They tell you about cancer, but they tell you only in a very general way of a group of remedies."[6] The ability to obtain enough characteristic symptoms from the patient with the advanced pathology is of concern, as advanced cases can present as one-sided.

It seems that once the local manifestation of the inner imbalance appears (tumour or neoplasm), the first concern for the Practitioner must be to eradicate the tumour as effectively as possible: "**There is likewise in cancer a rational local treatment whose object is the tumoural destruction, be it by irradiation or better still by operative oblation, *be it by local application of homoeopathic remedies, it should be practiced each time this is possible, for without that the treatment of general detoxification is shown to be insufficient in the greater part of the cases.* Pathology is often the only thing you can obtain. In such cases one must go back in the history of the patients as far as he can, from the beginning of life, and trace it step by step, his sicknesses, reactions to environment, the history of things that have come upon him by way of accident, and irritations - all those things, including vaccinations and serums-and better still, the history of his immediate progenitors and his immediate family."**[7]

This statement raises a very important question: *how do we effectively take the case of the cancer patient?* For information on case taking, there is no better place to

[6] Homeopathic Treatment of Cancer, 1st Indian Edition, Arthur Hill Grimmer, compiled in Encyclopedia Homeopathica

[7] Homeopathic Treatment of Cancer, 1st Indian Edition, Arthur Hill Grimmer, compiled in Encyclopedia Homeopathica

look than to the Organon for proper guidelines: **"In the search for a homeopathically specific remedy, that is, in the comparison of the complex of the natural disease's signs with the symptom sets of the available medicines (in order to find among them an artificial disease potence that corresponds in similarity to the malady to be cured) the more striking, exceptional, unusual, and odd (characteristic) signs and symptoms of the disease case are to be especially and almost solely kept in view. These, above all, must correspond to very similar ones in the symptom set of the medicine sought if it is to be the most fitting one for cure. The more common and indeterminate symptoms (lack of appetite, headache, lassitude, restless sleep, discomfort, etc.) are to be seen with almost every disease and medicine and thus deserve little attention unless they are more closely characterized."**[8]

Cancer typically presents as a one-sided disease; most of the symptoms associated may be 'common symptoms' and are not sufficient to base a prescription on. How do we determine what symptoms to use since the symptoms aren't that dynamic in nature? Hahnemann provides us with a clue, by stating: **"Diseases that appear to have only a few symptoms are termed one-sided because only one or two main symptoms stand out, almost obscuring the rest of the befallments. Because of this, these diseases, which belong chiefly to the class of chronic diseases, are more difficult to cure…in this case, a medicine has been selected as well as possible but, due to the one-sided nature of the disease, it is only imperfectly homeopathic, that is, it is only partially analogous to the disease. Consequently, the medicine will arouse accessory ailments, just as in the above-mentioned case where the dearth of homeopathic**

[8] Organon of the Medical Art, Sixth Edition, Aphorism 153, p.169, Samuel Hahnemann

remedies left the selection incomplete. The medicine will mix several befallments from its own set of symptoms into the condition of the patient. These befallments are, however, at the same time, ailments of the disease itself, although they have rarely or never been felt by the patient up until now. Befallments that the patient had not perceived at all before will disclose themselves, or befallments that the patient had perceived only indistinctly will develop themselves to a higher degree."[9]

Since an ill-fitting first prescription may follow with accessory ailments (which are part of the disease itself), then it follows that by *arousing those symptoms we may get a more complete picture of the symptom totality*, rather than a one-sided and less dynamic view. If this is the case, then *the symptom picture of the patient will become clearer and the second prescription will be more Homeopathic to the patient*. Evidence for this is found in Aphorism 182: "**The imperfect selection of the medication, which was here almost inevitable on account of the all-too-small number of symptoms present, nevertheless thus renders the service of completing the symptom content of the disease and, in this way; it facilitates the finding of a second, more apt, fitting homeopathic medicine."**[10]

By the time a patient has been diagnosed with cancer (or by the time they seek out Homeopathic treatment) *time is of the essence*. It seems that the 'watch and wait' method would not work well in this scenario. To make a cancer patient more uncomfortable with accessory symptoms is reprehensible.

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[9] Organon of the Medical Art, Sixth Edition, Aphorism 173, p.173 & Aphorism 180 p. 178, Samuel Hahnemann

[10] Organon of the Medical Art, Sixth Edition, Aphorism 182, p. 179, Samuel Hahnemann

According to Arthur Hill Grimmer's theory, he found it useful to treat the cancer patient both:

- In general terms (treating the individual in the precancerous phase, provided the Practitioner can recognize the susceptibility)
- And in local terms (treatment that is aimed at the destruction of the outward manifestation of the imbalance or cancer tumour).

Grimmer's general treatment often consisted of:

- Constitutional remedies
- Cancer specific remedies
- And drainage or canalization (which refers to the formation of canals or channels in a tissue) remedies.

Grimmer had great success with this approach. **"In the past four years I have treated two hundred and twenty-five cases of proven cancer, of various forms and in all stages of the disease. At this time one hundred and seventy-five are still living, many of them entirely well and free of all cancer symptoms."**[11]

In his book, Homeopathic Treatment of Cancer, Grimmer makes note of the 'properly called cancer remedies'.

These are:

[11] The Collected Works of Arthur Hill Grimmer M.D. Edited by Ahmed N. Currim PhD, M.D., p. 802

- Remedies that had proved themselves to be useful for improving both the general state and acting on the localized tumour
- Remedies that have proved useful for reducing pain
- And those remedies that he states were 'chosen for their action on the malignant tumour itself' (remedies that have an affinity for the tissue or organ affected by the cancer). He calls these latter remedies 'tissue remedies' and they were used for drainage.

Grimmer preferred using the lower potencies in the cases of advanced pathology: **"In late cases where there is much pathology and breaking down of tissue, I am very careful about giving potency too high. I prefer a low potency; say the 6X, 12X or 30X. You get better results and you do not get those terrible aggravations of the higher potency; if the case happens to be incurable, you are going to hurry that patient on to his death."**[12]

This seems reasonable to me, considering the terrible drain that the tumour has on the patient's vital energy. It stands to reason that in advanced cases of cancer (when the patient has low vitality) *a low potency with consistent repetition should nudge them along gently*. On the other hand, if the patient who suffers with this same advanced pathology is *given a dose or potency that is too high, it would stimulate their Vital Force to search for homeostasis in the wrong direction*; i.e. pushing them towards death as

[12] Homeopathic Treatment of Cancer, Arthur Hill Grimmer, M.D., compiled in Encyclopedia Homeopathica

opposed to towards health. This is certainly not ideal for the vitally compromised patient.

However, in treating a patient who may be susceptible to developing this pathology, or who is in a precancerous phase, I assumed it possible to be much more liberal with dosing. My suspicion was confirmed by Grimmer's further statements: **"In the earlier cases I don't hesitate to give the remedy high and expect him to live through the aggravation. The patient responds after these prolonged aggravations and you have a very good chance of curing that case."**[13]

I reason that it is *not* necessary to aggravate a patient in order to cure. It is possible to find a potency, dose, and posology that will help bring about cure - but not lead to aggravation - by prescribing a minimal dose in accordance with:

- The estimated sensitivity level of the patient
- Their current pathological state
- And the nature of the remedy that has been chosen.

Grimmer's Remedies: Materia Medica[14]

[13] Homeopathic Treatment of Cancer, Arthur Hill Grimmer, M.D., compiled in Encyclopedia Homeopathica
[14] Homeopathic Treatment of Cancer', Arthur Hill Grimmer, 1st Indian Edition, Compiled in Encyclopedia Homeopathica.

"These are the ones which have revealed themselves as having the most constant action on the tumoural element as well as the general state."

Sedum acre:

In material doses, mother tincture, 1X and 3X, it has an action on cancer in general, gives weight to the patients, and occasionally modifies the tumour, or at least retards its progress. Their principal sign is their tendency to mucosal and cutaneous fissures which are so frequent in cancer or the pre-cancerous state. The pathogenesis of these two remedies is incomplete. Because of that we must be satisfied to use them in an empirical fashion. Sedum Repens acts especially on the abdominal organs. Sedum Telephium, another plant of the same family, should act especially on the uterus or cancerous rectum with hemorrhages.

Scrophularia Nodosa:

This remedy acts especially on cancers of breast, skin, uterus, rectum, in low potencies or arterial doses, especially if there is marked glandular invasion.

Sempervivum Tectorum:

Lingual, breast, rectal and other cancers. Its tendency to aphthae, to malignant ulcers; specially indicated it in the ulcerated cancer. It must also be used in mother tincture or low potencies.

Carbo Animalis:

Already studied as a constitutional remedy of great value

Cundurango:

Of value in esophageal, stomach or intestinal cancers. One of its valuable external signs consists in fissures of the labial commissures. It also acts on cancer situate at the junction of mucosa and skin: lips, anus, and lids. Low or middle potencies

Cistus Canadensis:

This remedy acts especially in cancer of the breast, pharynx, or neck and gives rise to very marked cervical adenopathy. Chronic rhinopharyngitis. Extreme sensitivity to cold

Hydrastis Canadensis:

As good for the breast as for the stomach, Hydrastis is of great value in cancer, ulcerated or not, with progressive debility, wasting emaciation; hypochlorhydria is frequent before and during the phase of gastric cancer.

Kreosotum:

Bleeding ulcerations, vegetations develop rapidly and emit a burning discharge, excoriating, fetid; such are the principal signs of Kreosotum which acts especially well in cancer of the cervix.

Ornithogalum Umbellatum:

This remedy has a remarkable action in the pyloroduodenal sphere whether it acts on an ulcer or an established cancer.

Phytolacca Decandra:

Here again is a remedy which must not be neglected in hard or scirrhous tumours, since it can soften and diminish them; or slightly malignant cancers which develop slowly (breast scirrhous) or on suspected tumours which have not yet degenerated (parotids). Low potencies.

Grimmer's Tumour Remedies[15]

The remedies chosen for their action on the malignant tumour itself and have selective effects on a tissue or organ.

Silicea terra:

Constitutional remedy which acts on the connective and interstitial tissues; satellites are Silica acid, Calcarea Silicata (emaciation, sensitive to cold); Lapis Albus so useful in simple uterine fibromas with adhesions (Calcium Silico-fluoride).

Baryta Carbonica:

Acts also on the sclerosed or indurated or not

Aurum Metallicum, Aurum Arsenicum and Aurum Muriaticum Natronatum and **Plumbum Iodatum**; especially on the indurated, scirrhous, non-vegetating forms

[15] Homeopathic Treatment of Cancer', Arthur Hill Grimmer, 1st Indian Edition, Compiled in Encyclopedia Homeopathica.

Selenium Metallicum:

Debility, wasting possible tendency to sarcomas

The **Calcareas** which act on the lymphatic glands; **Calcarea Fluorica** has a double action, connective tissues and glands.

On osseous tissue: **Silicea, Aurum, Ruta** (which also acts in rectal cancer) and especially

Symphytum.

Different mineral salts and acids have been proposed in the treatment of cancer with variable results, most often negative. **Nitric acid**, which has already been studied and is of value: **Acetic acid**, used internally and externally by W. Owens; **Carbolic acid**, whose sudden pains are terrible, the discharges putrid; this remedy acts well, especially in ulcerating cancer of the uterine cervix; **Formic acid**, used in low potencies, 3x and 4x and is as good in cancer as in deforming rheumatism.

Calcarea Iodata, **Calcarea oxalica, Kali Iodatum, Kali Arsenicum, Kali Cyanatum, and Plumbum Iodatum.**

Cinnabaris:

When used in the 3C alternating with Thuja 6C in the cancroids of the face.

Carboneum Sulphuratum:

Also useful in neuritis and paralyses.

Ova Tosta:

Used for the cancer pains and warts.

Arsenicum Bromatum:

Indurated tumours with weakness and eruptive or ulcerating tendency

Antimonium Chloridum:

Mucosal cancers with great prostration

Galium Aparine:

Incomplete pathogenesis, ulcerated cancers and nodular tumours of the skin and tongue developing on the surface; acts also on the urinary organs

Fuligo Ligni:

Useful in epitheliomata of the skin and for irritated mucosa, especially uterus and scrotum; related to Kreosotum

Strychnos Gaultheriana:

Exhaustion and vertigo, capable of ameliorating the fetidity and hemorrhages of cancer by causing an improvement in the general condition, related to Arsenicum album.

Cinnamomum Zeylanicum:

Pain, hemorrhage, fetidity; should act especially in uterine cancer.

Anantherum Muricatum:

Ulcerated cancers, inflamed lymphatic glands; induration of breasts, tongue, uterine, or cervix

Cholinum:

(Alkaloid of Taraxacum). Taraxacum is a good drainer of the pre-cancerous state through its action on the liver.

Cholesterinum:

Hepatic cancer.

Eosinum:

Burning pains of cancer

Radium Bromatum:

Weakness, vertigo, tendency to cutaneous epitheliomata.

X-ray:

Radium Bromide antidotes the bad effects of x-irradiation in a patient who has been treated too intensely. Likewise the x-rays antidote the unfortunate effects of Radium in patients who have been treated by it.

J.C. Burnett

By the time a patient with cancer searches out Homeopathic treatment it's often at the end stages of the disease. It's essential that the Practitioner act quickly in order to make the most of their time. This leads us to the question: "How can we prescribe more expediently?" Upon a patient presenting with a localized tumour, the late J.C Burnett says this about his method of prescribing: **"When asked to put down shortly my mode of setting about curing a case of tumour when it comes before me for medical treatment, I would say: First of all, I begin by remembering Hahnemann's method of case-taking, and follow it partially; I say partially, because *time* is an element of importance nowadays. Then I go over in my mind the various medical doctrines, such as those of psora, syphilis, sycosis, vaccinosis, Grauvoglian constitutions and traumatism, not forgetting all the illnesses and diseases of the patient and any possible bearings of taints and dispositions, hereditary or acquired. Then I take a purely organopahtic survey of the organ or part, and then weigh and balance the various facts which physiology, pharmacology, and pathology tell us about it."**[16] Burnett considered both the characteristic aspects of the patient as well as the 'action' or 'organ affinity' of the remedy he prescribed.

There are several known carcinogens in our modern environment, i.e.: arsenic, cadmium, benzene, lead, nickel, and sulphur trioxide, to name just a few. These substances are also some of our most powerful Homeopathic remedies. The *Materia*

[16] Tumors of the Breast by J.C. Burnett, B.Jain Publishers, Reprint edition 1999, p. 64

Medica lists not only proving symptoms, but also clinical observations and toxicological symptoms. J.C. Burnett advocated the use of homeopathically prepared iatrogenic and toxicological drugs that have been known to cause cancerous afflictions. In his book Tumours of the Breast, Burnett comments on an abstract entitled *Arsenic Cancer*, which appeared in the British Medical Journal, authored by Dr. Jonathan Hutchinson: **"the study of the symptoms of chronic arsenical poisoning had long since taught us the importance of Arsenic in the treatment of cancer. Long previous to Hahnemann's time, Arsenic was an empirical remedy in cancer. But the selection of this drug by the light of the rule of similars has enabled us to differentiate those cases of cancer which are most surely benefited by it from those in which it is less efficacious"**[17]. These findings by Dr. Hutchinson suggested that arsenic used allopathically (and in crude form), had created many cancers, particularly those of the epithelium. Burnett goes on to write, **"We certainly are glad to find our opponents...confirm the truth and accuracy of your drug pathogeneses by observations of their own. Let us now suggest to them to test the value of our therapeutic application of your pathogenic observations, by giving Arsenic as a remedy in cases of epithelial cancer."**[18]

If a substance such as arsenic (in its crude form) could cause cancer in a healthy person, then it is possible that arsenic (used in its homeopathically prepared form) could bring about cure in a person afflicted with the disease. Hahnemann states in the Chronic Diseases: **"The antipsoric medicines treated of in what follows contain no so-called idiopathic medicines, since their pure effects, even those of the potentized miasma of itch (Psorin) have not been proved enough, by far, that a safe homeopathic use**

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[17] Tumors of the Breast by J.C. Burnett, B.Jain Publishers, Reprint edition 1999, p. 76
[18] Tumors of the Breast by J.C. Burnett, B.Jain Publishers, Reprint edition 1999, p. 77

might be made of it. I say *homeopathic* use, for it does not remain idem [the same]; **even if the prepared itch substance should be given to the same patient from whom it was taken, it would not remain idem** [the same]**, as it could only be useful to him in a potentized state, since crude itch substance which he has already in his body as an idem is without effect on him. But the dynamization or potentizating changes it and modifies it; just as gold leaf after potentizing is no more crude gold leaf inert in the human body, but in every stage of dynamization it is more and more modified and changed. Thus potentized and modified also, the itch substance (Psorin) when taken is no more an IDEM** [the same] **with the crude original itch substance, but only a SIMILLIMUM** [thing most similar]**. For between IDEM and SIMILLIMUM there is no intermediate for any one that can think; or in other words between idem and simile only similimum can be intermediate. Isopathic and aequale are equivocal expressions, which if they should signify anything reliable can only signify similimum, because they are not idem** [the same]**."**[19]

Hahnemann suggested that *Isopathy* could affect a cure just as *Homeopathy* could. He believed that when disease substances were potentized they changed in form. As a result, potentization would endow these substances with medicinal properties. Since Hahnemann believed that there is no intermediate between the same and the simile, then the potentized substance (because its form has changed), *must be the similimum*. This quote from Hahnemann supports the use of substances, which, when administered to a healthy person in their crude form, cause disease - but when administered in their

[19] The Chronic Diseases: Their Peculiar Nature and Their Homeopathic Cure, Samuel Hahnemann, Reprint Edition, 2005, p.175, 176.

homeopathic (or potentized form), can cure disease. In addition, it supports J.C.Burnett's theory that homeopathically prepared iatrogenic and toxicological drugs can be used to treat the cancer patient successfully. Furthermore, it supports the use of the *cancer nosodes* in treating cancer patients[*]. Whether or not Homeopaths argue that this is not Classical Homeopathy is not the concern. The concern, as Hahnemann stated, is: **"The physician's highest and only calling is to make the sick healthy, to cure, as it is called."**[**]

Dr. A.U. Ramakrishnan

On reading Dr. A.U. Ramakrishnan's book, Homeopathic Approach to Cancer, I noted that his particular method is *similar* to Grimmer's in advocating both a type of general and local treatment for the cancer patient.

A contemporary Homeopath and Honourary Homeopathic Physician to the President of India, Dr. Ramakrishnan has spent over thirty years dedicated to finding a method of treatment for cancer patients that provides good results. From his CD set of lectures on the 'Treatment of Cancer', Dr. Ramakrishnan opens by asking the questions: "*What is man?*" and "*What is cancer?*" He says: "*It's necessary to understand man, in terms of what brings on the cancer*". From the Homeopathic viewpoint, according to Dr. Ramakrishnan, it is necessary to understand the difference between life and death, health and sickness, balance and imbalance, and what is both curative and destructive. He goes

[*] The use of cancer nosodes in the treatment of cancer will be discussed beginning on p. 26 of this paper.
[**] Organon of the Medical Art, Sixth Edition, Aphorism 1, p. 60, Samuel Hahnemann

on to say that: "*Even a man who isn't exposed to these drugs/toxins, in small and remote villages with no such things around can be suffering. There's a difference between happiness and misery - the state of mind. Happiness is the state in which you lead a joyful life****, smile within****, and be fearless"*. He punctuates these thoughts with: "***You have to smile within. Only a man with good thoughts, thinking and disposition can be fearless inside. Man can be fearless only when doing the right thing***."

Dr. Ramakrishnan then refers to the Indian classical text, the Bhagavad Gita, and the three existential levels of man:

- Rajas (passion); positive energy, wanting to do
- Tamas (ignorance); procrastination and not wanting to do
- Sattwan (soothfastness); the balance between the two, *inherent in everything*.

He states: *"the happiest man is dominated by Sattwan and that balance in our energy and attitude is crucial"*. He explains that man has a tendency to cling to the past and to have anxiety for the future. He asks the group: *"Who are you? What are you? Are you happy?"* He says that: "*what you really are is very difficult to define; it's that self inside you that has to understand and follow the eternal values."*

Knowledge of the self is very important in order to achieve harmonious balance. It may take a whole lifetime for some to understand that they are not just their bodies, but are in fact 'consciousnesses', or 'source energy', or depending on your beliefs 'part of

God'. I believe that we are spiritual beings having a human experience. Why then do we become sick? There are obvious external factors, such as: carcinogens, chemicals and biological damage. There are also internal factors, or mental and emotional pollutants, such as: heavy resentment, anger and sorrow. Our goal is to achieve a disease-free body and stress-free mind; we can come to that state through Homeopathy.

Homeopathy is a scientific approach to achieving and maintaining balance on the energetic level. "**In the healthy human state, the spirit-like life force (autocracy) that enlivens the material organism as dynamis, governs without restriction and keeps all parts of the organism in admirable, harmonious, vital operation, as regards both feelings and functions, so that our indwelling, rational spirit can freely avail itself of this living, healthy instrument for the higher purposes of our existence."**[***]. Somehow Hahnemann knew that we are governed by something more than just our bodies.

Dr. Ramakrishnan reiterates: *"the growth which arises by the proliferating cells has two sets of causes: influences from environmental and inner causes that are hidden, preventing the soul/spirit being from finding the right connection with the physical body. All of these factors create energy imbalance in the body and Homeopathy is able to influence the Vital Force. In real terms, influencing the spirit, soul, being of man. The Vital Force is responsible for the whole mechanism; from birth to growth, from evolution to preservation and to death."* Therefore, it is the Vital Force that can eradicate a cancerous tumour or cell.

[***] " Organon of the Medical Art, Aphorism 9, p. 65, Samuel Hahnemann

With a specific view to the treatment of cancer, Dr. Ramakrishnan writes: "in acute ailments and highly specific types of illnesses a limited number of medicines appear to work best, regardless of personality type. These are called "specific remedies", in that they address the specific disease itself rather then the patient's complex of physical, mental, and emotional symptoms [fever, chickenpox, or poison ivy].'[****] Dr. Ramakrishnan continues with, "So it is in the treatment of cancer. Because of the severity and in many cases urgency of this condition, the individuality of the patient must yield to the "specificity" of the disease itself. Thus, because the pathology has taken over, one must address the *localized tumour first*. Furthermore, with this disease, one is dealing with a measurable pathology and not with subtle imbalances of the body's energies, and therefore less subtle methods of prescribing are required. The very *concreteness* of the tumour, combined as it so often is with a race against time, calls for a more specialized (as against individualized) mode of prescribing."[*****]

Dr. Ramakrishnan's method of prescribing is quite different from the traditional 'watch and wait' method used, as he wishes to minimize the dreadful affects that the cancerous lesion(s) have on the patient. His method was adapted to bring *rapid* and *tangible* changes in the pathology. His basic method for administering remedies is as follows[*]:

[****] Homeopathic Approach to Cancer, ,p. 2, Dr. A.U. Ramakrishnan
[*****] Homeopathic Approach to Cancer, ,p. 2, Dr. A.U. Ramakrishnan
[*] note: Dr. Ramakrishnan prefers to dose with 200C

D) The first prescription: the first remedy prescribed must have a *specific affinity for the organ(s) affected by the cancer* (or one of the *wide-spectrum cancer* remedies).

E) The second prescription: the second remedy prescribed is the *appropriate cancer specific remedy.*

F) Frequent administration of the remedies on a regulated basis.

G) Prescribing the second remedy, alternated with the first, on a regular weekly basis. This serves to ensure that:

- The patient does not tire of the remedy and stop responding to it
- Risk of aggravation is decreased (too frequent repetition of a remedy can cause aggravation)
- The disease is addressed on two different levels.

D) Using the Plussing Method of administering remedies[♣].

This proceeds as follows:

- The dilution of the remedy in water, potentizing it further by either succussing or stirring before every dose is taken (this minimizes aggravation and makes the remedy more powerful with each successive dose, thus heightening its action).

Dr. Ramakrishnan's *specific* Plussing Method includes:

- Putting three pellets of the remedy into eleven teaspoons of water.
- The remedy is shaken or stirred before each sip.

[§] note: this is similar to the LM prescribing approach endorsed by Samuel Hahnemann in the Sixth Edition of the Organon of the Medical Art

- Ten teaspoons of the remedy are then taken over a two-and-a-half hour period (and the last teaspoon is set aside for the next day). Ten teaspoons of water are added to the *remaining* mixture the next day and this process is repeated for one week.
- After Week One, the remedy is changed (a *cancer specific* remedy is given in place of the *organ affinity* remedy) and the dosing procedure is repeated as above.
- Weeks Three and Four are started with a mixture of both *fresh water* and *fresh remedy* (alternating weeks between the *organ affinity remedy* and the *cancer specific remedy*, i.e.: the remedy prescribed in Weeks One and Three may be one of the *organ specific* remedies, whereas the remedy prescribed in Weeks Two and Four are based on the appropriate *cancer specific remedy*).

G) For a stronger impact, Dr. Ramakrishnan also uses the Split Dose Method.

This proceeds as follows:

- The patient takes the prescribed remedy four times during the day: one dose in the morning, one before noon, one during the afternoon, and one before bed.♥

The *cancer specific* remedies used by Dr. Ramakrishnan are the *nosodes*:

- ***Carcinosin*****:** This is the most frequently prescribed *cancer specific* remedy, and is prepared from diseased tissue of cancer of the breast.

© note: This method entails alternation of the two selected remedies (*constitutional/ organ affinity* and *cancer specific*), and is only used after the cancer is under control.

This is the preferred nosode when there is a family history of cancer.

- ***Scirrhinum*****:** This nosode is prepared from cancer of the liver and is used when the tumour or affected gland is 'stony hard'. This can also be used in place of Carcinosin if the patient is not responding sufficiently, or if the tumour becomes hard during treatment

Dr. Ramakrishnan uses one of these two remedies alternately with an *organ-specific remedy*. With this method, he has succeeded in: eradicating existing tumours, preventing relapses, palliating patients with advanced cancer, and preventing cancer when the patient is in the precancerous phase.

In addition to the *nosodes*, Dr. Ramakrishnan makes use of other remedies that figure significantly in many cancer cases. These are the *wide-spectrum cancer remedies:*

- **Conium**: As with Scirrhinum, the tumour or affected gland is 'stony hard'. It has been proven useful in cases of breast, stomach, liver and prostate cancers, as well as in cancer that has metastasized to the bones.
- **Thuja**: This remedy displays many skin growths (warts, moles, tabs, and excrescences) and has been proven helpful in cases of colon, stomach, ovarian, uterus, rectal, and prostate cancers.

- **Arsenicum Album**: Arsenicum is often used to relieve pain, especially during the terminal stages of cancer. Arsenicum *"Maintains the system under the stress of malignancy regardless of location."*[24]

Further Information on Remedies Associated with the Ramakrishnan Method of Treatment:

1. Carcinosin[*]

"HEREDITARY BACKGROUND: Various preparations of Carcinosin have long been used in homoeopathic practice, mainly on the indication of a strong family history of cancer. Recent clinical experience suggests that they may be useful as constitutional remedies for patients having a strong family history of cancer, diabetes, tuberculosis, or a mixture of these diseases, more strongly represented than in an "average" family."

RELATED REMEDIES: The Tuberculins, Medorrhinum, Syphilinum, Sepia, Natrum Muriaticum, Calcarea Phosphorica, Lycopodium, Phosphorus, Psorinum, Arsenicum Album, Arsenicum Iodatum, Pulsatilla, Sulphur, Opium, Alumina and Staphysagria.

Characteristics:

- Café au lait, pale complexion, with numerous moles and blue sclera
- Cerebral torpor, mental inertia which is aggravated by a feeling of cephalic constriction
- May be apathetic and does not reply to questions

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[24] Pocket Manual of Homeopathic Materia Medica and Repertory, William Boericke, p. 79

[*] Taken from D.M. Foubister's, The Carcinosin Drug Picture

- Brain work is a trial to him
- Resembling Medorrhinum, in the treatment backward or mentally defective children
- Used in the treatment of psychotic patients with a tendency to suicide who had a cancerous heredity
- Prolonged fear, and prolonged unhappiness
- Anticipation taking the form of worry or anguish
- Attention to detail, exaggerated precision, fastidiousness
- Obstinacy
- Strong sense of rhythm, love of dancing
- Sensitive to music; sometimes makes him weep
- Likes watching a thunderstorm
- Very sympathetic to others
- Sensitive to reprimand
- Bizarre tics: tears at the skin around the fingernails, blinking of the eyes, and facial grimaces
- Aggravation or amelioration from heat or cold (sensitive to both heat and cold)

- Aggravation or amelioration from the Sea air.
- Worse for undressing
- Worse talking or laughing
- Better after a short sleep

- Family history of cancer, diabetes, tuberculosis, pernicious anemia, or a combination of these diseases more than in an “average” family history
- Hereditary syphilis; a past history of whooping cough or other acute diseases at an early age
- Beating, throbbing sensations
- Secretions: acrid and thick
- Desire or aversion for salt, milk, eggs, fat, fruit
- Alternation of symptoms from one side of the body to the other side
- Periodicity; afternoon, 1-6 p.m.
- Numerous pigmented naevi and moles
- Blue sclera
- Sleep disturbed
- Difficulty in falling asleep, restless sleep
- Awakened by shudders; exciting dreams
- Lies awake most of the night; insomnia in general
- Sleeps in genu-pectoral position or dorsal position (with arms raised above)
- Throbbing headache, pulsating, deep-seated, right sided, suborbital headache
- Feeling of constriction of the brain
- Twitching eyelids
- Sensation as of a lump in the throat

- Palatal pain, aggravated by hot drinks, ameliorated by cold; worse morning and evening
- Tender gums, dental pain, ulcerations
- Cough; stomach cough provoked by tickling the sub-sternal region; aggravated by heat, in a warm room, or by cold air by laughing or talking from changing clothes from yawning
- Violent cardiac palpitation heard and felt by the patient
- Feeling of constriction of the heart
- Oppression of the chest, with the desire to take a deep breath
- Feeling of tightness in abdomen, pain better for pressure or for bending, or for hot drinks
- Constipation without desire; stools hard and dry
- Muscular twitching in thighs, arms and back
- Pain, weakness, fatigue and swelling of the thighs, better after a short sleep

- Pain in the legs, better for heat, or for gentle movement; aggravated by rapid movement
- Acneiform eruption of the face
- Rash between the shoulder-blades, worse for undressing

2. Scirrhinum

'The nosode of cancer corresponds to the cancerous diathesis; cancer of the breast

with enlarged glands. Many such cases have been cured with this remedy by Burnett and many other homeopathic physicians. It is a valuable intercurrent remedy to be given during the course of the broad constitutional treatment, enhancing and complementing the action of the other indicated remedies. A patient to whom Burnett had given this remedy, mentioned that it had caused the passage of an enormous number of thread worms.'[**]

Characteristics:[ℵ]

- Breast, cancer of
- Cancer; Cancerous diathesis
- Glands, enlarged
- Hemorrhage
- Varicosis
- Tremendous sinking at the navel (Burnett)

Ramakrishnan's Organ Specific Remedies [∇]

Through Homeopathic Clinical experience and the use of provings, Dr. Ramakrishnan has compiled a list of remedies that have a strong affinity for the particular organ affected, or the site of the primary tumour.

[**] Taken from Arthur Hill Grimmer's book, The Collected Works of Arthur Hill Grimmer' M.D., Edited by Ahmed N. Currim Ph.D., M.D.

[ℵ] 'The Materia Medica of Some Important Nosodes, Allen, H.C., compiled in the Encyclopedia Homeopathica

[∇] A Homeopathic Approach to Cancer, Dr. A.U Ramakrishnan, p. 7-13.

- **Aloe**: Cancer of the colon and rectum.

  Symptoms associated: bleeding from the rectum, blood in the stool, stool; jelly like or mixed with mucus (sometimes blood stained).

  Sensations: Cutting or burning pains, heavy pressure and bloated feeling in the abdomen (often from flatus; patient is uncertain whether flatus or stool will pass).

  Modalities: Worse early in the morning, heat, and better from cool air.

- **Arsenicum Bromatum**: Squamous and basal cell carcinomas, melanomas, radiation effects on the skin.

  Symptoms associated: intense redness or burning, ulceration but no infection.

- **Arsenicum Iodatum**: Skin Cancer and skin infections

  Symptoms associated: For skin lesions that are infected, which results in sloughing, necrosis at or surrounding the site of the tumour. When skin infection becomes systemic, with alteration in total white blood count, differential count, and erythrocyte sedimentation rate. Arsenicum Iodatum can also be prescribed in conjunction with other remedies in infection of the urinary tract, for abscesses, lung infections etc.,

  * 6X potency to be given several times a day for several weeks.

- **Aurum Muriaticum**: Cancers of the oral cavity.

Symptoms associated: cancerous ulcers in the inner aspect of the cheeks or on the tongue and palate. Ulcers have everted edges, indurated base with submandibular/ cervical adenitis. Excessive salivation with foul odor.

- **Aurum Muriaticum Natronatum**: Cancer of the uterus, ovaries and cervix.

  Symptoms associated: ulcerations and indurations. Possible prolapsus, leucorrhea, ovarian dropsy and ossified uterus.

- **Baryta Carbonica**: Cancer of the brain. Has an affinity for tumours of the brain cells; gliomas, astrocytomas, angiomas.

- **Baryta Iodata**: Cancer of the lymph glands. Has an affinity for the endocrine glands, lymph glands, and tonsillar area (pharynx as well)

- **Cadmium Sulphuratum**: Cancer of the stomach and pancreas.
  Symptoms associated: vomiting of black, coffee-ground matter. Bleeding in the stomach.
  Sensations: cutting, twisting, burning pains with intense chilliness and weakness.

- **Ceanothus Americanus**: Cancer of the spleen, pancreas and liver; also leukemia

  Symptoms associated: spleen enlargement

Modalities: pain worse when lying on the left side, from motion.

- **Chelidonium**: cancer of the liver and gall bladder; primary and secondary deposits.
  Symptoms associated: nausea with or without vomiting. Highly colored urine and clay colored stool.
  Modalities: pain worse by lying on the right side. Nausea made better by eating small amounts, hot water
  * Remedy can be taken in tincture to relieve symptoms in conjunction with other cancer remedies; 6 drops in ½ oz water, several times a day or on a PRN basis.

- **Hekla Lava**: cancer of the bones and blood; primary and secondary: sarcomas, osteoclastomas, myelomas, Ewing's sarcomas and other bony growths. For both acute and chronic myelogenous leukemia.

- **Symphytum**: cancer of the bones and blood. Secondary cancer deposits in the bones and for tumours related to the periosteum. Acute leukemia (secondary to Hekla Lava). Particularly indicated when there's a history of joint inflammation and pain.

- **Hydrastis**: cancer of the stomach, pancreas, and upper intestinal tract. Cancerous affections of the mesenteric glands and mucous membranes; including lungs and esophagus.

Symptoms associated: yellow, thick, ropy secretions. Distended abdomen, profuse perspiration, extreme weakness and intense pain.

- **Lachesis:** cancer of the uterus, ovary and cervix (also a strong affinity for the throat area)

  Symptoms associated: left-sided, loquacious, aggressive, demanding with a heightened imagination

- **Lillium Tigrinum**: cancer of the uterus, ovary and cervix

  Symptoms associated: right- sided, prone to small anxieties, weepy

  Sensations: bearing down sensation of the abdominal organs.

- **Lycopodium**: lung cancer (both primary and secondary deposits)

  Symptoms associated: tend to right-sidedness

  Modalities: aggravation 4-8pm

- **Nitricum Acidum**: cancer of the rectum. Other specific areas are mucocutaneous junctions (mouth, lips, anal margin, urethra, vaginas and vulval margin).

  Symptoms associated: ulcerous eruptions

  Sensations: needle-like pricking pains

- **Ornithogalum Umbellatum**: symptomatic relief in stomach cancer

Symptoms associated: constant pain in stomach (worse eating). Distention; belching of offensive flatus; vomiting coffee-ground like matter.

* Mother tincture 6 drops in ½ oz water, three to four times a day, shortly after meals. Used in conjunction with other stomach cancer remedies.

- **Phosphorus**: Hemorrhaging, cancerous tumours and ulcers. Along with **Sanguinaria** is a prime remedy to arrest internal, or external bleeding. **Phosphorus** is also useful in cancer of the throat and cancer of the female organs.

- **Phytolacca**: cancers of the breast and the parotid gland.

  Symptoms associated: the breast may be hard, painful and have a purple hue in later stages; enlarged axillary glands. Often swelling and induration of affected glands.

- **Plumbum Iodatum**: cancers of the brain. Useful in tumours and cancerous growths arising out of the nerve cells, especially those of the brain. The Iodatum component is of assistance in neoplasms and consequent infections.

- **Pulsatilla Nigricans & Sepia**: cancer of the breast, uterus, ovary and cervix (prescribed on the basis of their ‘constitutional’ picture as well as for their specific affinity for the female reproductive system.

- **Sabal Serrulata**: cancer of the prostate.

  Symptoms associated: enlargement of the prostate, loss of sexual desire; history of promiscuity and/ or venereal infections.

- **Sanguinaria**: Highly affective for controlling the bleeding of cancerous tumours and ulcers (most often used in breast and bronchogenic carcinomas).

  Symptoms associated: hemorrhages

  Sensations: hot flushing and burning pains

- **Terebinthina**: cancer of the bladder

  Symptoms associated: bleeding, difficult, scant or painful urination

  Sensations: burning pains.

Recent Scientific Support for the Ramakrishnan Method

Where might we find the scientific evidence to support Dr. Ramakrishnan's approach, or scientific proof that Homeopathy has any positive effect when it comes to treating cancer?

In a recent article by Manfred Mueller (M.A., RSHom (NA), CCH), various completed scientific studies have been cited. "Biswas, *et al*., of the West Bengal group, conducted a study published in the Journal of Alternative and Complimentary Medicine to examine whether the homeopathic drug Carcinosinum 200C, fed alone and in combination with Chelidonium 200C, had any differential protective effects against the development of liver cancer in mice induced by p-dimethylaminoazobenzene (p-DAB), a carcinogenic aniline dye still widely used in the textile industry in many countries. Both Carcinosinum 200C and Chelidonium 200C when administered alone showed considerable ameliorative effect, but the conjoint feeding in alternation of these two drugs appeared to have had a slightly greater protective effect."[26] It is noteworthy to consider whether Chelidonium was the similimum of the mice used for the study. If the appropriate similimum *had* been administered (based on the totality of symptom similarity for each individual mouse), the effect may have been greater.

In reference to the same study, Mueller comments: "these remedies were chosen as generic treatment for liver cancer and no individualization was used. ***This study also***

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[26] . '*The Evidence: Scientific Studies on Homeopathic Cancer Treatment'* by Manfred Mueller; M.A., RSHom (NA), CCH, from volume 13-2007 of '*The American Homeopath'*,

appears to support the clinical strategy of alternating a "specific" Homeopathic to the "disease" with a "constitutional" drug Homeopathic to the "patient".[27] Based on the information in this article, I have concluded that there is sufficient scientific evidence to support the Ramakrishnan method.

Based on all of the information collected from Grimmer, Burnett and Ramakrishnan, I have concluded that they all used very similar methods when treating the cancer patient. All three Practitioners:

- Made use of remedies that had an affinity for the specific organ or tissue affected by the cancer.
- Treated patients with their own *cancer specific remedies* [*] in order to eradicate the local manifestation (tumour).

Through researching these different methods of cancer treatment, I have concluded that in order for Homeopathic treatment to be effective, the treatment must first be targeted at the specific organ or tissue affected by cancer. Remedies that target the cancer tumour must then be given to eliminate the overgrown pathology. Furthermore, the alternation of these two carefully selected remedies helps to achieve simultaneous results in two spheres. When the tumour is eradicated and the patient is vital enough, then the underlying energetic imbalance may be addressed by careful constitutional prescribing.

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[27] . '*The Evidence: Scientific Studies on Homeopathic Cancer Treatment'* by Manfred Mueller; M.A., RSHom (NA), CCH, from volume 13-2007 of '*The American Homeopath'*

[*] Grimmer used 'Tumor Remedies', Ramakrishnan used 'The nosodes & wide-spectrum cancer specifics' and J.C. Burnett endorsed the use of 'iatrogenic' or 'toxicological remedies' which he felt were carcinogenic.

Other Recommendations for the Cancer Patient

(The Cancer Continuum, Toronto, Ontario, October 2007)

Nutrients are essential for good health and are the materials of which the tissues of the body are built.

Essential fatty acids such as Omega 3 and 6 are important to control inflammation.

A proper amount of protein is essential as it's responsible for the proper working and building of neurotransmitters, enzymes, and connective tissues.

Vitamins and minerals are essential as coenzymes derived from these are needed all of the time; the absence of one coenzyme compromises the activity of others.

A high glycemic load from a diet high in refined carbohydrates may increase the risk of cancer. This type of diet leads to insulin resistance and failure to store nutrients which in turn, leads to health problems such as heart disease, stroke, diabetes, obesity and increases the risk of developing cancer.

Particular Phytochemicals that may be helpful:

Mushrooms: shitaki, maitake: these mushrooms has anti-tumour, anti –viral, and anti-bacterial properties. The Phytochemicals found in these mushrooms have recently shown to increase TNF (tumour necrosis factor which is responsible for causing cellular apoptosis and regulating immune reaction).

Curcumin: Curcumin is the principal curcuminoid of the Indian curry spice and has been shown to suppress angiogenesis (physiological process involving the growth of new blood vessels from already existing ones; tumours need a blood supply) and metastases (the spreading of cancer from one part of the body to another. Cancer cells break away or spill from the cancer tumour and enter the lymphatic and blood vessels, circulate throughout the bloodstream and settle down to grow on normal, healthy tissues of the body). Curcumin has also shown in recent studies to inhibit cell proliferation and increase cellular apoptosis.

Resveratrol: Resveratrol is a potent phytochemical found in berries, Red wine, grapes and peanuts. Recent studies have shown it to have a number of important health benefits; it has anti-cancer (anti-leukemia cancer agent), anti-aging, neuroprotective, and anti-inflammatory properties.

N-acetylcystine and vitamin C: Prevents tumour growth in Oxygen poor environments.

Some Inspirational Reading For Those With Chronic Illness

1) You Can Heal Your Life. Louise L. Hay. Published by Hay House Inc. copyright 1984.

2) The Creation of Health. Caroline Myss, Ph. D, C.Norman Shealy, M.D. Published by Three Rivers Press. Copyright 1988.

3) Quantum Healing: Exploring the Frontiers of Mind/Body Medicine. Deepak Chopra, M.D., Bantam Books. Copyright 1989.

4) The Book of Secrets. Deepak Chopra. Three Rivers Press. Copyright 2004.

5) The Power of Now: A Guide to Spiritual Enlightenment. Eckhart Tolle. New World Library and Namaste Publishing. Copyright 1999

6) A New Earth: Awakening to Your Life's Purpose. Eckhart Tolle. Namaste Publishing. Copyright 2005.

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